

## **ABSTRACT**

A microorganism staining agent characterized in that an alkali substance and a diazo dye or xanthene dye are contained therein; and a method of detecting  
5 microorganisms with the use of the agent. There are provided a microorganism staining agent which resolves the problem of pretreatment posed by the conventional direct speculum method, being capable of staining microorganisms in shorter time; and a method of detecting microorganisms with the use of the agent.